computerized all its operations and excepting 13 branches, all the remaining 2035 branches are networked enabling premium acceptance and policy enquiry across any branch. LIC has also initiated steps to open Satellite Offices in hitherto unrepresented areas.

(c) Market share and profitability are two different issues and the market share may not have any direct bearing on the profitability of the business of the Corporation as long as it is writing the level of business which it had planned for, keeping its resources in mind.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Disinvestment of Neyveli Lignite Corporation

1636. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cabinet has accorded approval for disinvestment of Neyveli Lignite Corporation; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

Protection of consumers' interest in credit cards system

1637. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out a study to assess the impact of the credit cards schemes launched by various banks, on the interests of consumers and their savings with the banks especially in the context of the vigorous drives by the banks to promote credit cards system;

(b) if so, the result of the study; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to protect and promote the consumers' interest?